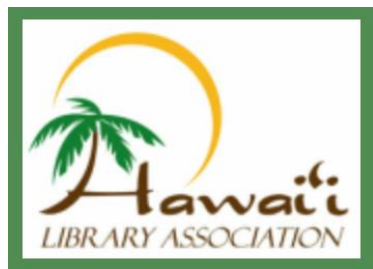


Excluding Japanese American Readers in the Library of Hawai'i during in the Territorial Era

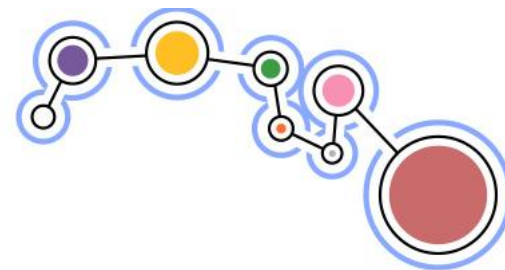


Noriko Asato & Andrew Wertheimer

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa LIS Program

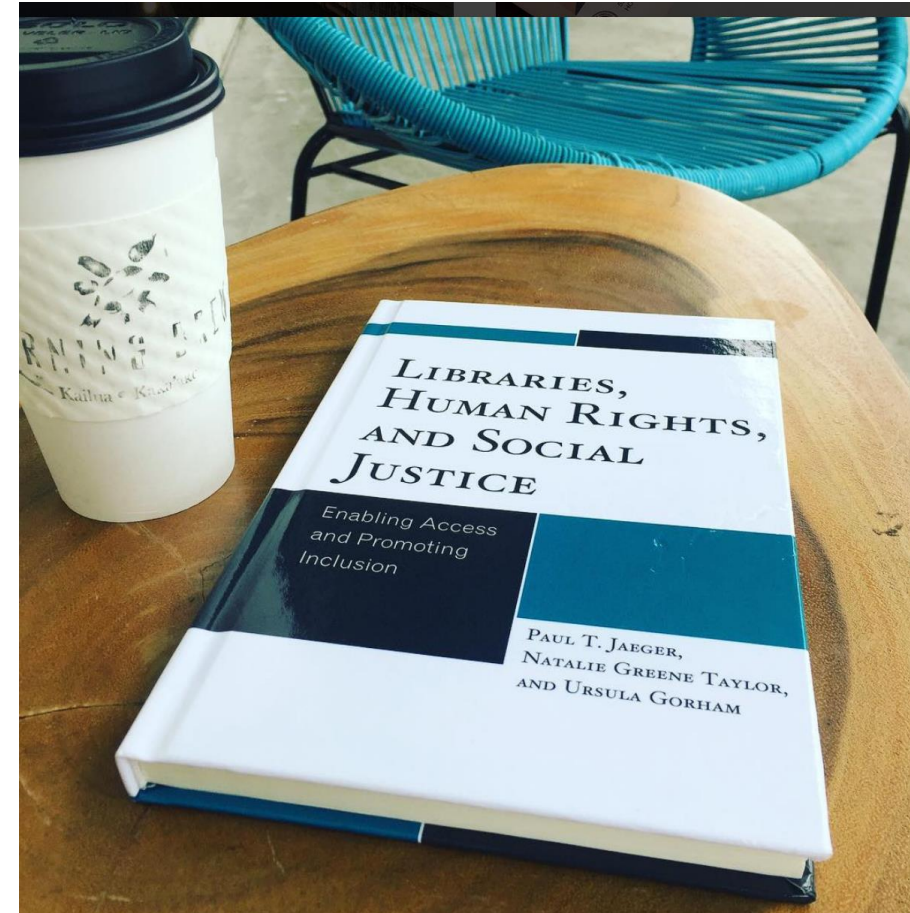
Hawai'i Library Association Annual Conference

16 November 2018



introduction

Era	Early 21 st Century	Early 20 th Century
Inspiration	Jaeger et al and others	ALA Commttee for Work with the Foreign Born
Library as	social service providers and human rights advocates	Americanizer Work with social workers Promote literacy
Services	Multilingual collections, programs & brochures	Multilingual collections, programs & brochures



1940 Census of Hawai'i

Asian Ethnicity	
Chinese	28,774
Filipino	52,569
Japanese	157,905
Korean	6,851

Other Ethnicities	
African American/ Black	255
Caucasian	112,087
Native Hawaiian	64,310
Other	579
Total (all ethnicities)	423,330

Japanese bookstore on Oahu (today)



hakubundo

Home

About

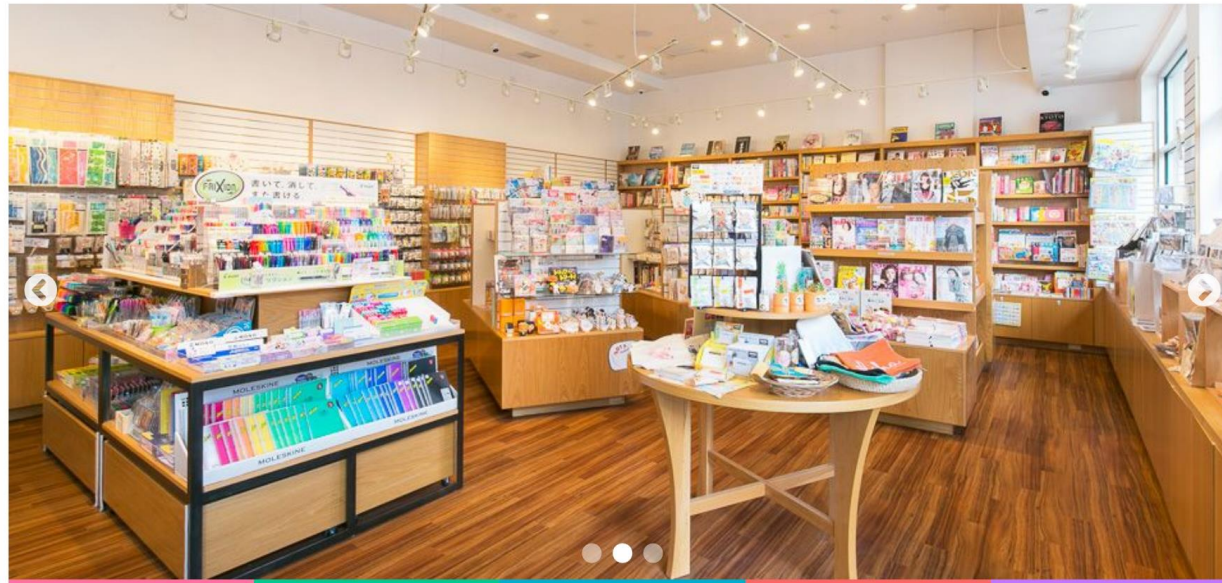
Products

Locations

Contact

Wholesale

Online
Store



<https://hakubundo.com/>

Japanese immigration



Remembering the Ganenmono (AW)

- Forces pushing Japanese emigration:
- Meiji era industrialization
- Displaced farmers and craftsmen, samurai

Japanese immigration



Photo: NYK HIKAWA MARU (Yokohama) (AW)

Hawai'i Historical Period and Immigration History	Period
Hawaiian Kingdom <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Ganenmono• Mass Migration Begins	(1795-1893) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1868• 1885-
"Republic of Hawai'i"	(1894-1898)
Territory of of Hawai'i <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Immigration Act ended mass migration	(1900-1959) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• -1924

Issei Options after Plantation Contract



Photo: Waialua Sugar Mill (AW)

- Stay on plantations
- Move to city (start store)
- Start small business (like Coffee)
- Move to the American Continent
- Return to Japan (or Manchuria, Korea, Taiwan)
- Those who stayed, many brought wives to Hawai'i and established small businesses. Thus, these "sojourners" became "settlers."

Rise of the Nisei Generation



By 1928, Nisei children made up **52%** of all public school students in the Territory.

--Eileen Tamura, *The Nisei*, p 30.

Public Library Service to Immigrants in North America

- Boston Public Library established in 1852
- Great Irish Famine (1845–1852)



Boston Public Library

Boston's Brahmins were especially unhappy about the flood of ignorant and rough immigrants into this country. The standing committee of the Boston Public Library noted that the people of Boston spent large sums of money on education each year, and their reasons were quite explicit: "We educate to restrain from vice, as much as to inculcate sentiments of virtue; we educate to enable men to resist the temptation to evil, as well as to encourage and strengthen the incentives to do good." But, the committee continued, these times require special vigilance.

-Michael Harris, (1975). *The role of the public library in American life: A speculative essay*, p. 6.

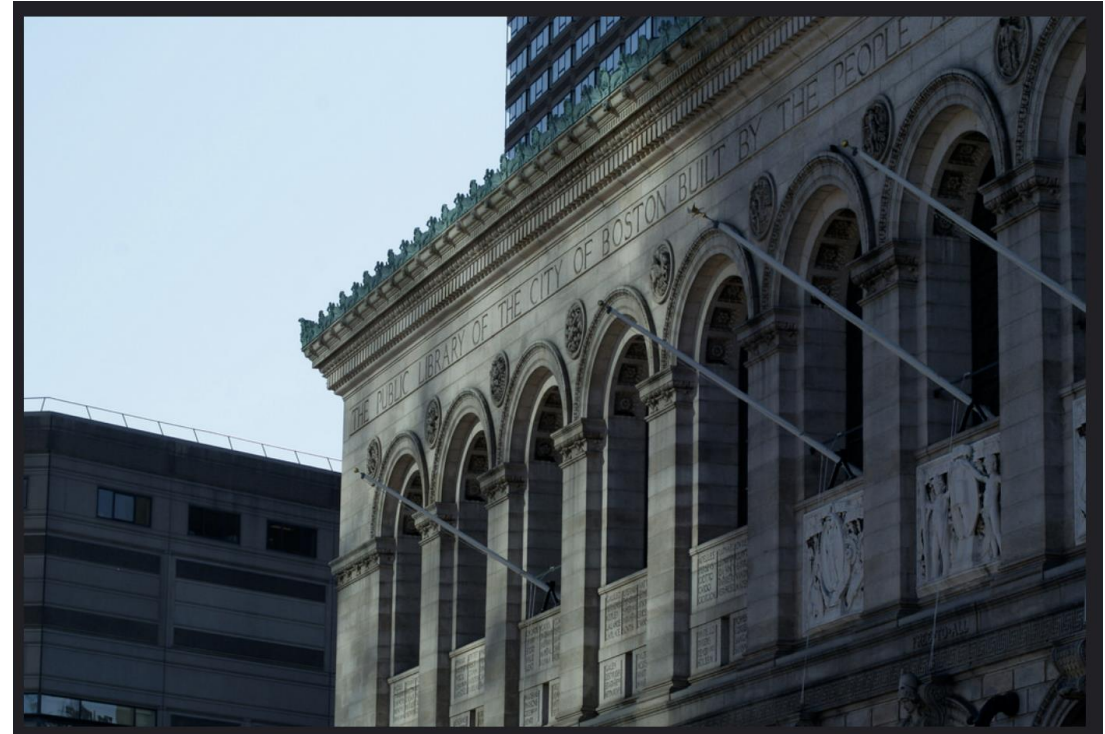


Photo: **Boston Public Library** (AW)

Phyllis Dain (NY Public Library) and the Dain-Harris Debate

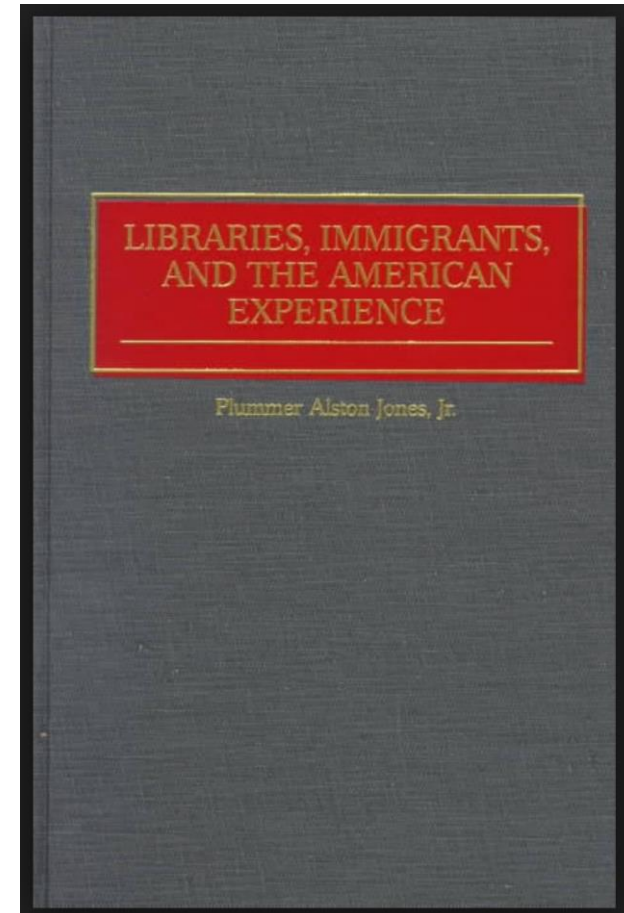


Photo: **New York Public Library** (AW)

Jones' (1999) *Libraries, Immigrants, and the American Experience*

ALA Committee on Work with the Foreign Born (1917 – 1948)

- Anglo-conformity
- Melting pot
- Cultural pluralism



The Origins of the Library of Hawai'i



Honolulu Library and Reading Room Association

- Only five Japanese names listed as subscribers



Unprocessed Collection: HLRRRA Records at the Hawai'i State Archives. Photo: AW.

The Origins of the Library of Hawai'i

- Honolulu Library and Reading Room Association (HLRRA) royal charter 24 June 1879.
- Became a public library in order to receive Carnegie funding for library building
- Edna Allyn, HLRRA Librarian became the librarian at the new public library until her death in 1927.

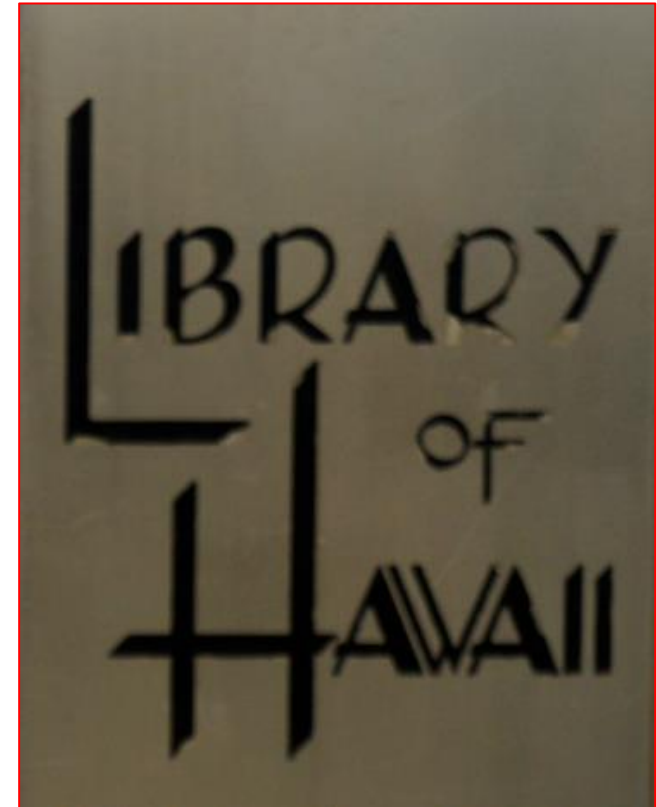


Photo: Kailua Public Library (AW)

Library Service to Japanese Americans

By 1910, during the period between the public library's establishment and the completion of the Carnegie Library, there were 191,909 people in the territory, of which 79,675 were Japanese, meaning they now made up **41.5% of residents**, clearly making them the **largest ethnic group in the territory** (U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1913, 9).



Library Service to Japanese Americans

Tachihata found a letter from the 1920s when a librarian wrote that she regretted that “**lack of funds precluded the purchase of Hawaiian and Japanese books requested by patrons in hospitals.**”

--Chieko Tachihata (1991). “Hawai‘i’s Public Libraries: Their role in a Multiethnic Society.” *Journal of the West*, 30(3), 25-35.



Librarians conferencing (1906)



Photo:

Librarians in Nantucket, Massachusetts, 1906.

F. W. Faxon Collections.

American Library Association Archives.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

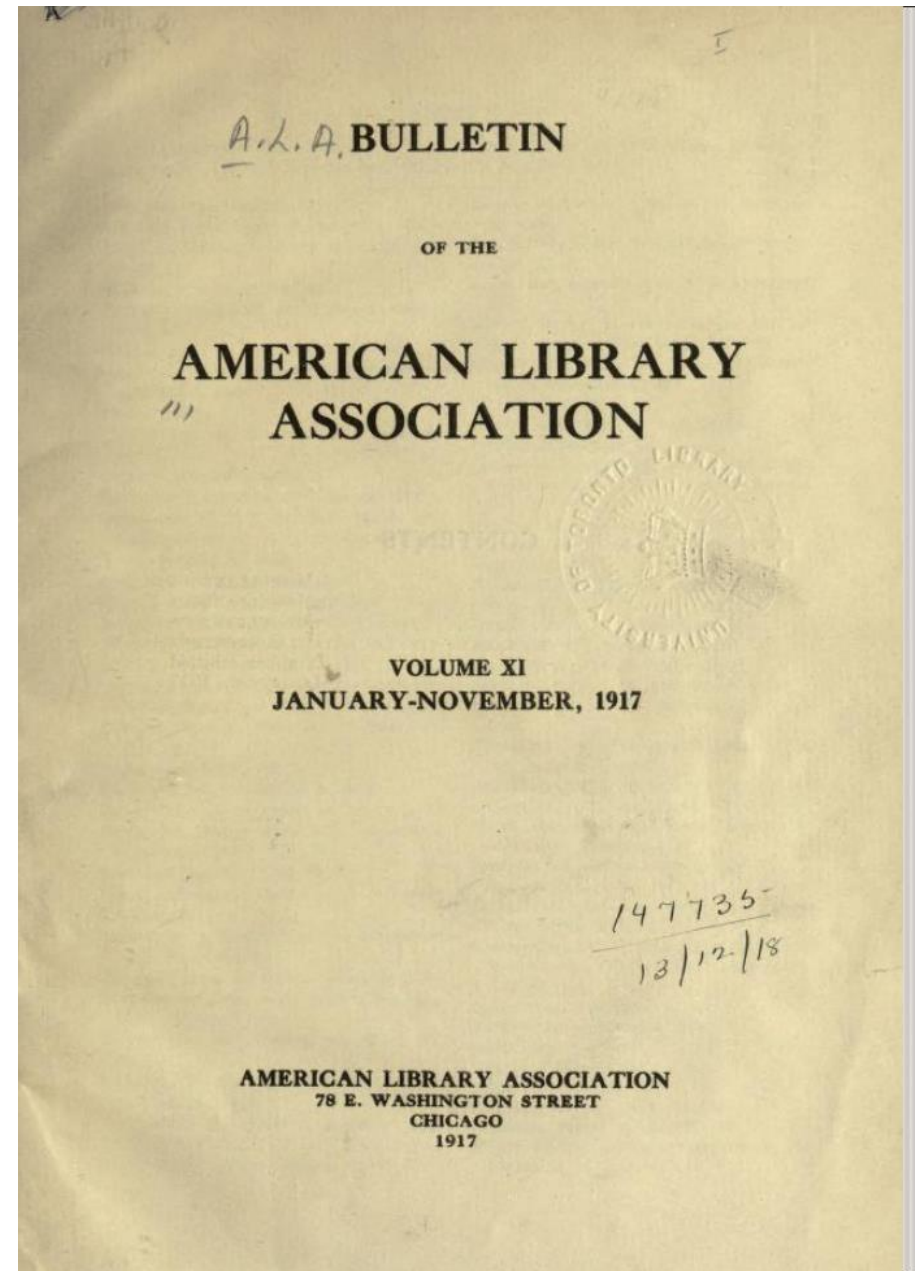
<https://digital.library.illinois.edu/items/7fa04430-2b7c-0134-1d8b-0050569601ca-2>

The ALA Bulletin

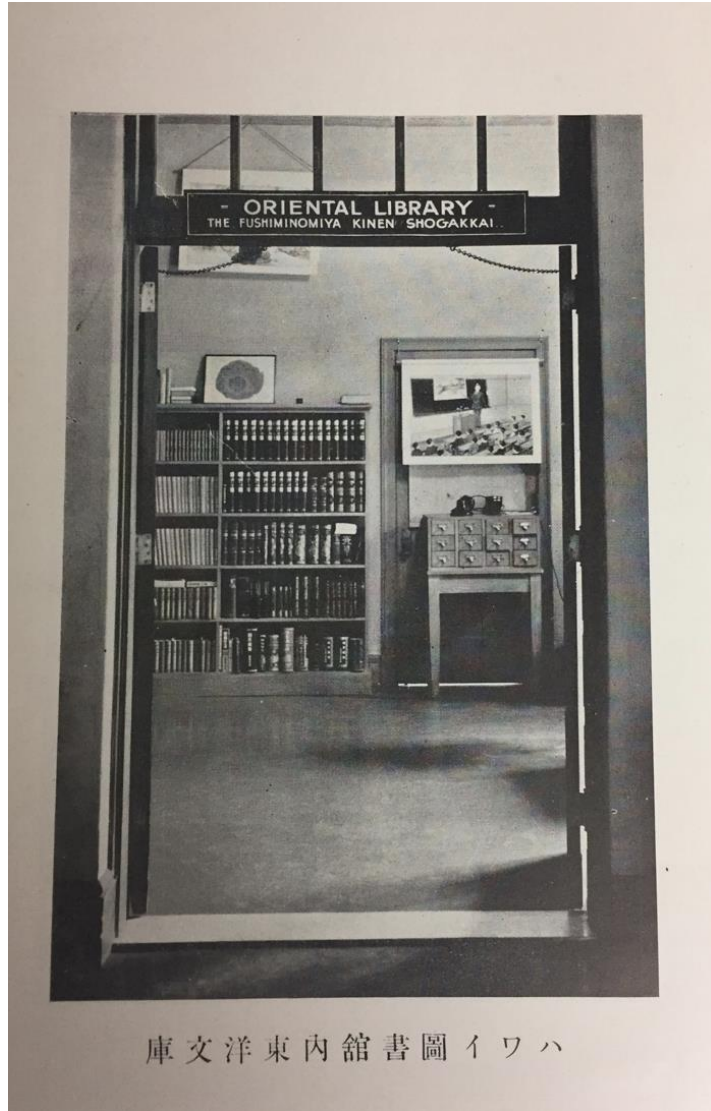
Photo: *ALA Bulletin*.

<https://archive.org/details/alabulletin11ameruoft/page/n7>

INTERNET  ARCHIVE



The “Oriental Library” (Library of Hawai‘i)



Librarians' stereotype of immigrants

Image: Wikimedia Commons: a ship approaching New York City, bound for Ellis Island, with the Statue of Liberty in the background.



Methodology

- **Section I (The Library):**

- **Sources:** HSPLS, State Archives, Annual Reports, Other studies

- **Section II (Japanese American Print Culture):**

- **Sources:**
- Hoover Institution's [*Hoji Shinbun Digital Collection*](#)
- *Yamato*, a semi-weekly newspaper published by Shintaro Anno (1895-1896)
- *Yamato Shinbun* (1896-1906)
- *Nippu Jiji* (1906–1942). Editor/Publisher: Yasutaro Soga
- Triangulated with community histories

Methodology: Searching the *Hoji Shinbun* Digital Collection

- Searches were made for such terms as “*shoten* (bookstores)”, “*honya* (bookstores)”, “*shosekiten* (bookstores)”, “*hon* (books)”, “*tosho* (books)”, “*shoseki* (books)”, “*zasshi* (magazines)”, “*dokusho* (reading)”, “*dokusha* (readers)”, “*dokushokai* (reading club)”, and “*kodoku* (subscription).”
- Additional searches were made for the names of specific Japanese publications, the names of Japanese bookstores, and merchants in Hawai‘i.

Stanford University



Hoji Shinbun Digital Collection

Japanese Diaspora Initiative

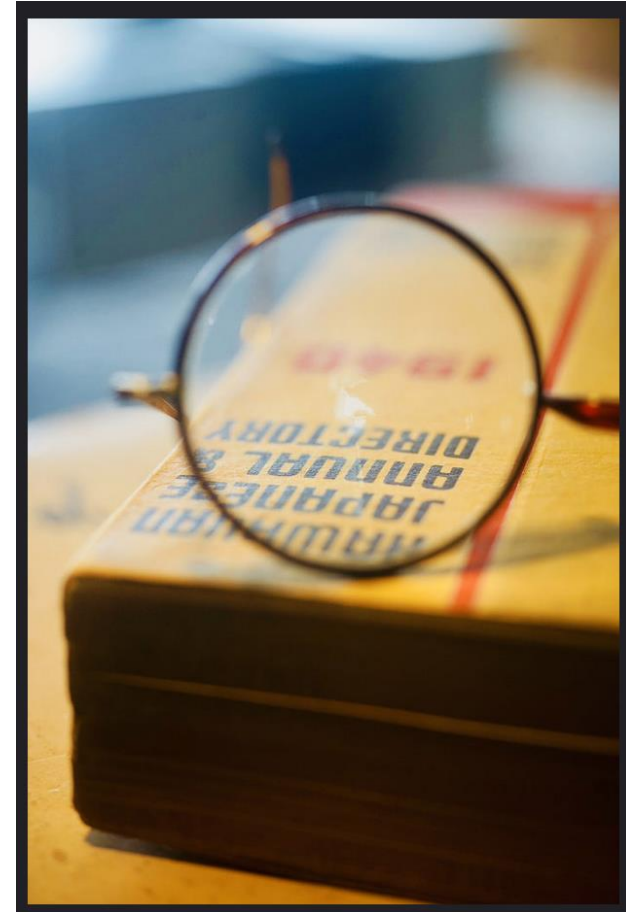
Evidence of Japanese Bookstores

- articles and editorials by the newspaper staff on reading and bookstores.
- advertisements about books and bookstores in the local newspapers.



More Evidence of Japanese Bookstores

- *Hawai nihonjin nenkan* [*Hawai'i Japanese yearbook*]
- *Hawai nihonjin meikan* [*Japanese who's who*]
- *Hawai jitsugyo annai* [*Guide to businesses in Hawai'i*]
- Soga's memoir, *Gojuunenkan no hawai kaiko* [*My memoirs of fifty years in Hawai'i*]



Early Japanese Bookstores/ 1

- January 27th 1942, a brief article appeared in the *Nippu Jiji*, one of Honolulu's daily Japanese newspapers, announcing a liquidation sale at Morishige *Shosekiten* or bookstore.

新着書籍目録(廿七)

自修論	安部 磯雄	一六〇	三
洗心録	幸田 露伴	一六〇	三
吐雲録	和田 埴三	一六〇	三
四十七士	村上 浪六	一六〇	三
人の運	大町 桂月	一六〇	三
皇朝録	村上 浪六	一六〇	三
スケッチブック講義	阿田 清彦	一六〇	三
南蠻寺門前	木下 圭太郎	一六〇	三
次の一戦	一海軍中佐	一六〇	三
科学小説不良少年	小林 營里	一六〇	三
縮刷ミ、ズノタハゴト	徳富健次郎	一六〇	三
嵐	佐藤 紅緑	一六〇	三
ナポレオン史話	長瀬 風輔	一六〇	三
研究十年	内村 鑑三	一六〇	三
弓張月	幸田 露伴	一六〇	三
道中膝栗毛集	堀田 富三	一六〇	三
近世書記講義	吉田 良武	一六〇	三
最新寫真術	吉田 好九郎	一六〇	三
平面三角法講義	石原重雄	一六〇	三
オルガンピアノ手ほどき	石原重雄	一六〇	三
オイケン哲学	稲毛 祖風	一六〇	三
ベルグソンの哲学	錦田 義富	一六〇	三
吾輩は猫であつた【袖珍】	夏目 漱石	一六〇	三
春の歌	網島 梁川	一六〇	三
無學の聲	野依 秀一	一六〇	三
實用英和書翰文	山口 造酒	一六〇	三
安産の聲	伊庭 秀榮	一六〇	三
東京年中行事	若月 紫蘭	一六〇	三
淑女鑑	田嶋 教恵	一六〇	三
萬夢獨判	太田 貞吉	一六〇	三
巴里より	興謝野 品子	一六〇	三
新國民の修養	同 品子	一六〇	三
停雲集	浮田 和民	一六〇	三
自修英文典	姉崎 正治	一六〇	三

森重書籍店
ホノル、市ベレタニア街郵箱九一〇電話一四〇九

Early Japanese Bookstores/ 2

- **Sanshichi Ozaki** (from Kanagawa Pref.) portaged books. With his load of books over both shoulders, he sold Japanese immigrant workers *ezoshi* (picture books) for 20¢ to 30¢ and novels for 70 to 80¢.
- This is how the Ozaki *Shoten*, or a general store, began its history.



Photo: 三好守雄, 余科の学び. 智しきの開発
(1720). Arai Hakuseki, 1657-1725. 明26.9. National Diet
Library Digital Collections.
<https://www.dl.ndl.go.jp/api/iiif/1919227/manifest.json>

Early Japanese Bookstores/ 3

- The Ozaki Store and a few other stores including the Iwakami, Takemura, and Mie stores were pioneering shops in Honolulu. They brought funds with them from Japan and began their businesses as general merchants also selling books. However, the majority of Japanese stores were established by people who came to Hawai'i originally as immigrant laborers (Morita, 1919, 124).

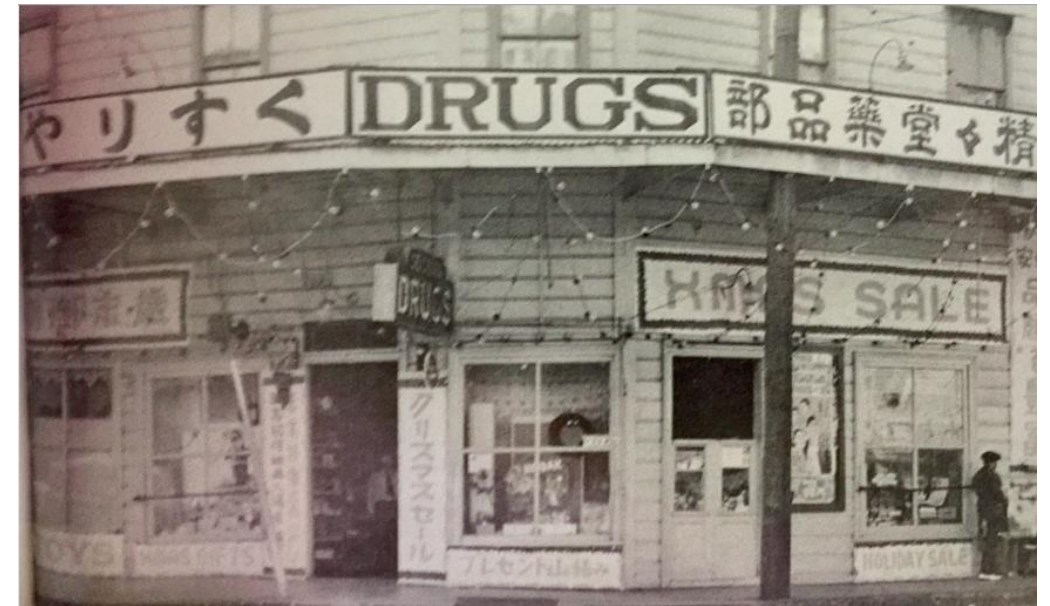


Sanshichi Ozaki. *Sinhawai* (1902)

Table 2: Store advertisement for books in Honolulu before 1900

Store	Selected Advertised Merchandise	Location (Street)	Year of first advertisement
Takemura Shoten	<i>Bungei Kurabu</i> [<i>Literary Club</i>], joruri (books on Japanese ballad drama), new novels, dictionaries, cookbooks, foods, clothing, tea, cigarettes, etc.	King	1896
Kobayashi Store	Books, English Japanese dictionaries, silk, cotton items	Nuuanu & Hotel	1896
Tanaka Shoten	Western cookbooks, English dictionaries, watches, drugs, fishing tools	Beretania	1897
Murakami Shoten	Novels, carpentry tools, foods, pottery, drugs, kimono textiles, lacquerware, vegetables, glass plates for photography, miscellaneous goods	Beretania	1898
Horita Shoten	Novels, foods, miscellaneous goods	Beretania	1898

Early Japanese Bookstores/ 4



Seiseido Pharmacy (Hawai'i Times Photo Archives Founda

Soga on Plantation Stores & Readers

- These stores were like tiny department stores”
- They carried literally anything one needed for Japanese everyday life, including food, kimono, chinaware, medicine, alcohol, and papers. Reflecting his upbringing and taste, he wrote “since their customers were plantation workers, there were no ‘real books,’ but such vulgar-taste readings as *kodanbon* [storybooks or oral narratives] were plentiful in the store” (19).



Photo: Detail of :Yasutaro Soga. From Scene the Pictorial Magazine Vol. 3 No. 5, September 1951, p. 28. **Densho: ddr-densho-266-34**
<http://ddr.densho.org/ddr/densho/266/34/>

Japanese Bookstores in the 1900s and 1910s

- Tanseido, for example, was founded in 1918 by Ichitaro Tomita, and fellow countrymen, pharmacist Tsutomu Ota with \$10,000 in start-up capital.

謝恩と記念とを兼ねて大割引

弊店にては今回店内の一部にソーダファンテンを据へ付候就而は其の記念と平素の御引立に報るため十二月十日より三十一日迄薬品を除き他の商品一切大割引仕り候

割引商品 樂器類一切 小間物類一切 化粧品一切 化粧道具一切 文房具類一切 碁盤と碁石 将棋盤及駒 美術製品 書籍及玩具 百人一首

歳暮御贈答品として適當の品も澤山 店内に陳列致し居り候間高い安いの御批評は御越しの上として良い品の澤山有る内是非御用命願上候 尙御華客様の御便利を計り候ため商品券販賣仕り候

ホノルル市ベレタニア街リバー角

丹誠堂

電話三〇五八 郵箱九四一

Photo: Nippu Jiji 1920.12.13

Japanese Bookstores in the 1900s and 1910s

- Matsumura Bookstore



Photo:

Nippu Jiji 1909.12.06

Japanese Bookstores in the 1900s and 1910s

The elegant store display, forever prosper --
Matsumura bookstore.

Passing rain, showering on the pine tree,
inviting me to stop by the bookstore.

Ardent love woven into a bookmark,
returning a book placed as a suggestive
message.

Selling mother's keepsake ring for books,
study with a great adversity.

What for collecting unnecessary books,
enjoy reading in the autumn night.

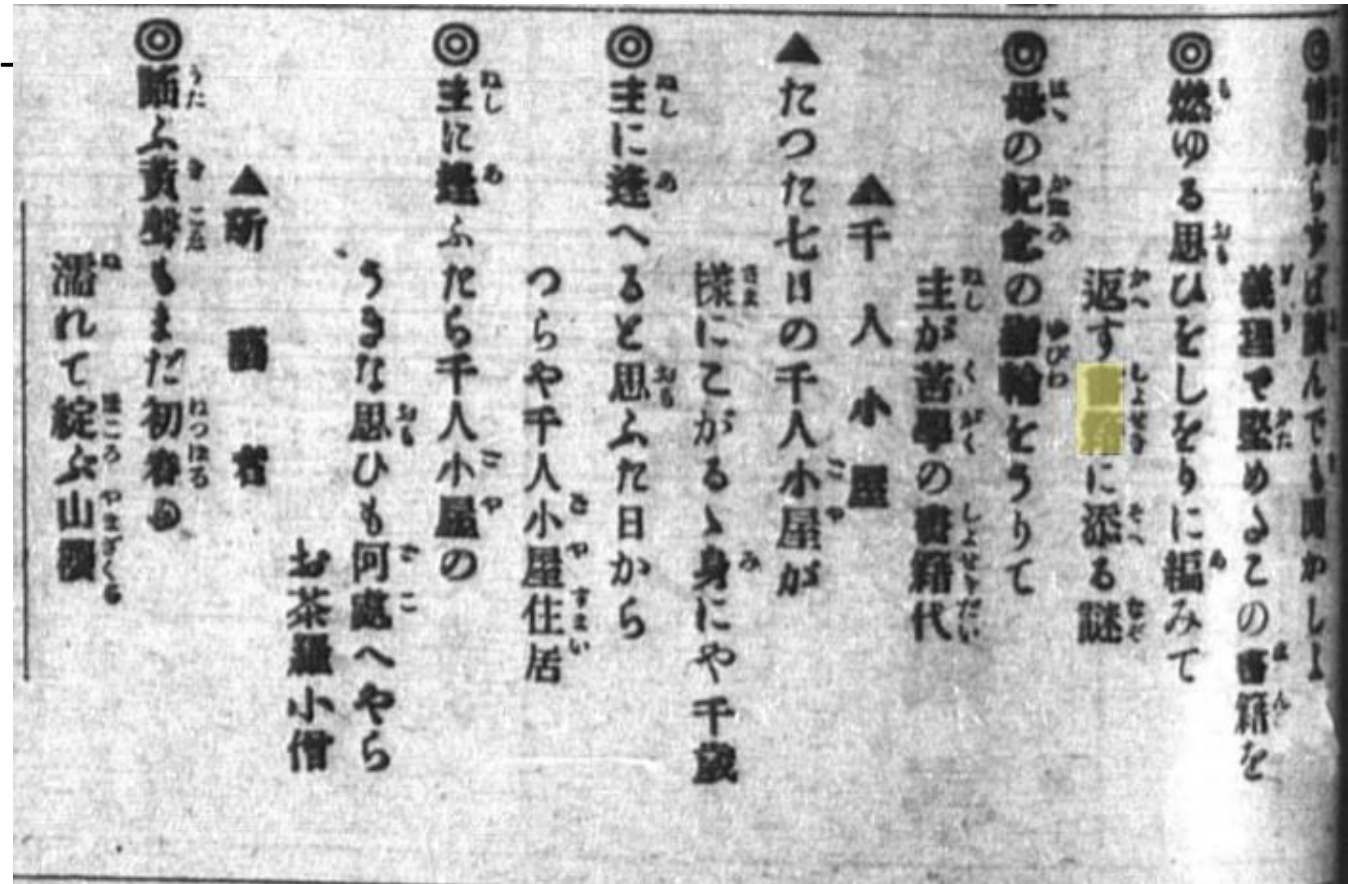


Photo: Nippu Jiji 1908.03.09

Japanese Bookstores in the 1900s and 1910s

Holding my favorite book, tears come out, again forgot this *kanji*, how to read.

Collecting Japanese and Western cookbooks, practicing for a new family.

Halt reading and half close a book, what I learned first is the taste of love.

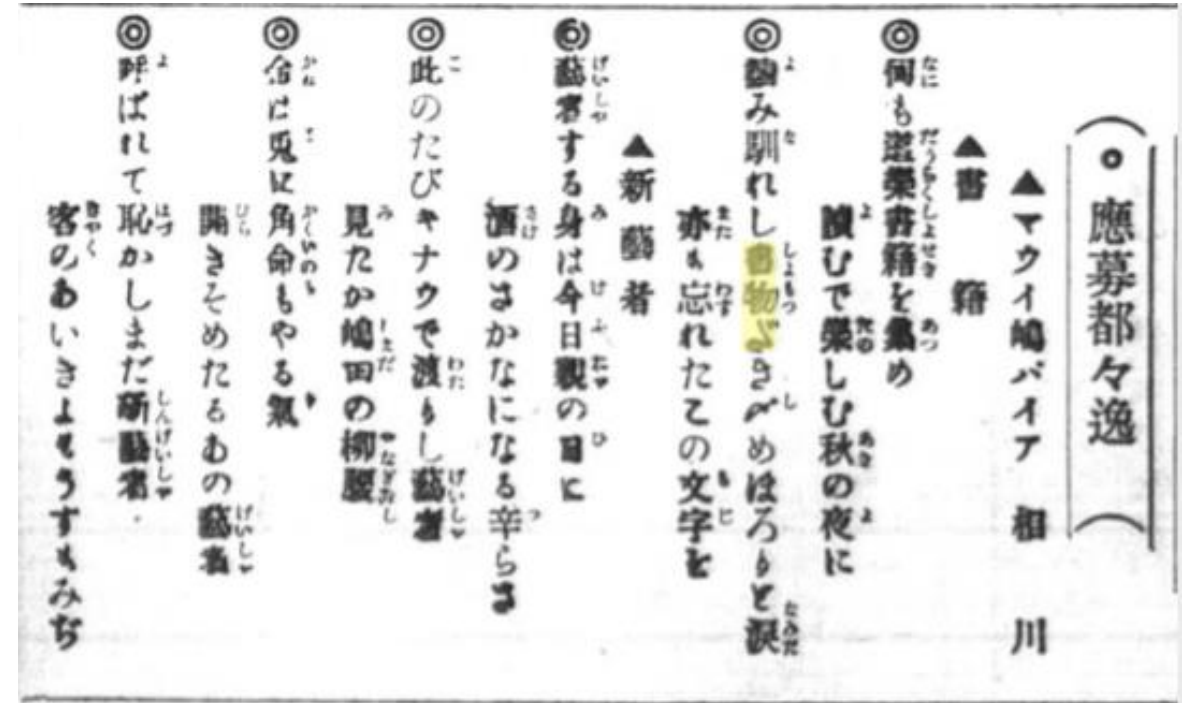
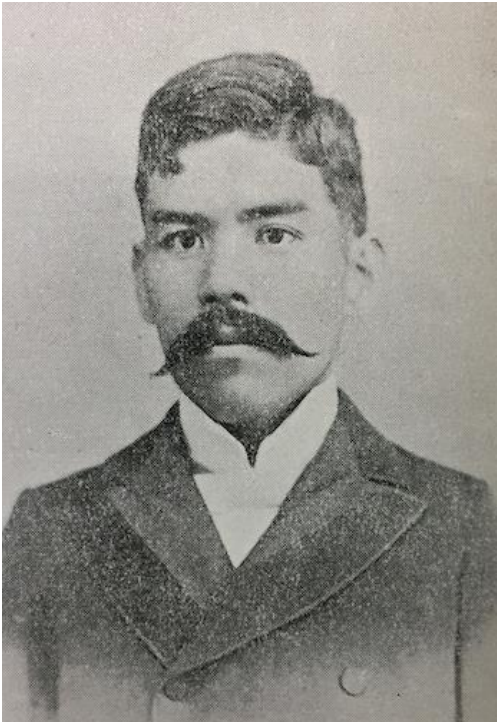


Photo: Nippu Jiji 1908.03.06

What did the Japanese Americans read?



Wasuke Motoshige,
Shinhawai (1902)

- **Motoshige Store's Book Advertisement:**

Shuyo (moral, self-improvement)
Cookbooks, Household; Hygiene,
Divination, Hypnotism; *Waka*,
Haiku (Japanese poetry), Western
and Japanese musical
instruments and instruction;
Japanese-English Conversation,
Dictionaries, Translated English
Books; Japanese Literature;
Dictionaries; Math, Accounting,
Law; and Miscellaneous.

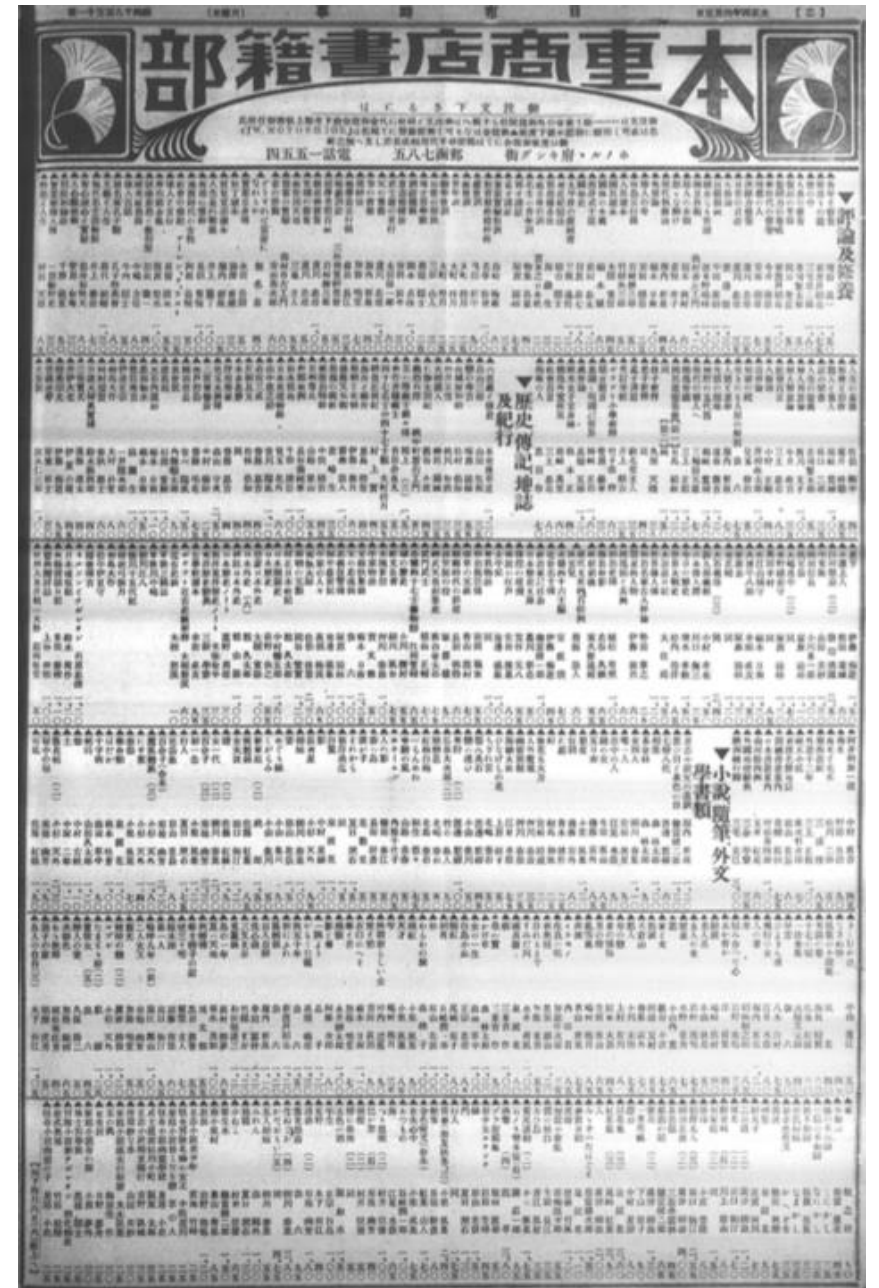


Photo: (*Nippon Jiji* 1915.4.5)

Packing kori (bamboo basket trunks)

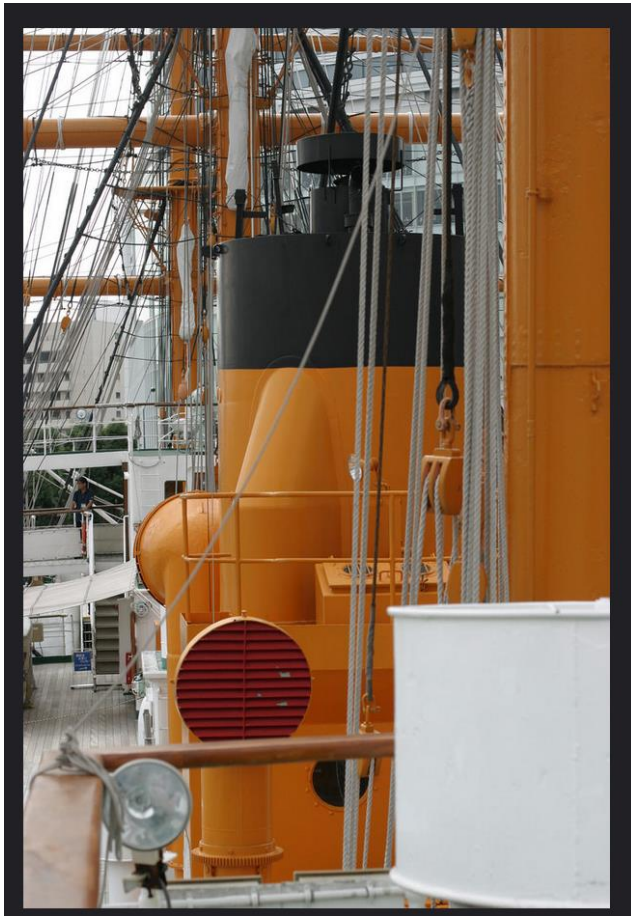


Photo: Nippon Maru (Yokohama)
(AW)



Photo: **[Yanagi kori (basket trunk), Fukushima, Japan, ca. 1917]** (2004.1.215) Gift of Barbara Kawakami Japanese American National Museum
<http://www.janm.org/collections/item/2004.1.215/>

Shuyo Books

“Shuyo” books on self-improvement or morals.

Many Issei immigrants packed one or two shuyo books in their *kori* (bamboo basket trunks) as an aspiration to maintain their Japanese spirit and a righteous mind even while living abroad. This category includes books on the *samurai* code, old adages, words and inspirational biographies of famous people including Japanese and Western figures.



Photo: Shuyo Book

Magazine Boom

Sino-Japanese War (1894-1895).

Tokyo's **Hakubunkan** published:

- *Taiyo* [The Sun]
- *Bungei Kurabu* [Literary Club]
- *Shonen Sekai* [Boy's World]
- Plus series of inexpensive *tankobon* or paperbacks

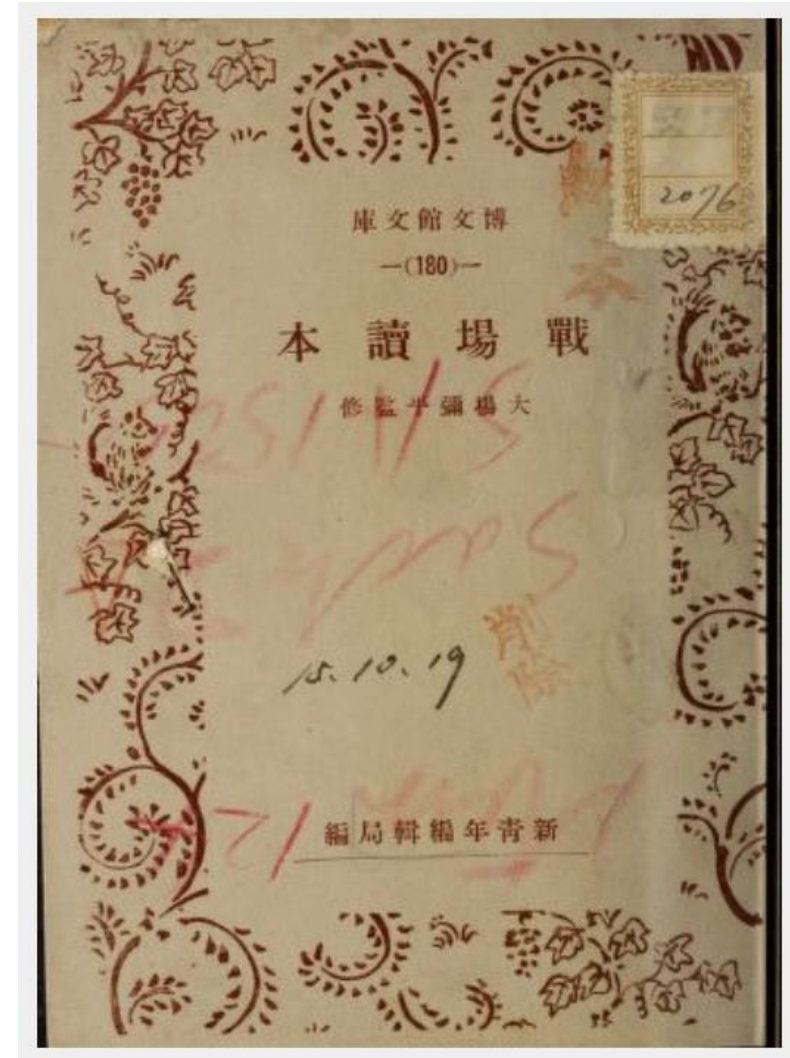


Photo: Senjō-dokuhon Other Title 戰場讀本 / Senjō tokuhon . Tōkyō : Hakubunkan, Shōwa 15 [1940] "MOJ 75-A 658": intended for microfilm. LC copy from Naimushō Keihokyoku censorship collection; classified as "annei" and banned. <https://lccn.loc.gov/99476165>

Women's Reading: "High and Low"

Tokyo's *Jiji Shinpo* Dissemination of Reading Society List

- home psychology
- theory of life,
- Western music,
- biographies of successful women
- anthology of poetry by modern women
- lectures on women's culture, young ladies' life of thought.
- Books by prominent women writers, such as the feminist poet Akiko Yosano and some English books in Japanese translation were also on the recommended list.

Photo: November 1922 advertisement for Morishige Bookstore, "Women and Reading" (*Nippu jiji*, 1922.11.19).

Conclusion

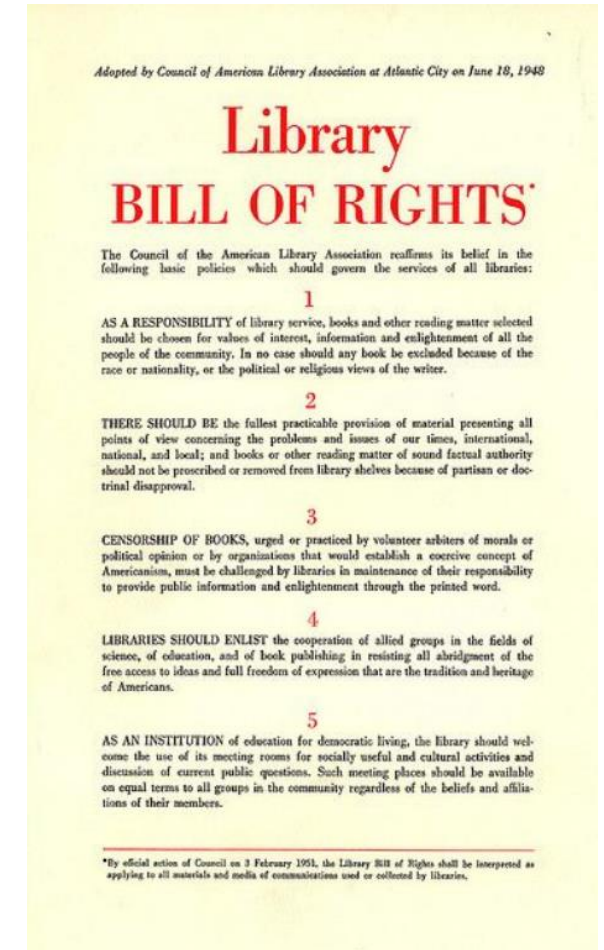
Conclusion

- We can feel the Issei's inner joy, pride, hunger, alienation, dreams, and so many other emotions as they consumed Japanese language books and magazines.
- The Library of Hawaii did not respect meeting the Japanese immigrants' hunger for their print culture.

Conclusion: Failed to meet the *Library Bill of Rights*

1939 Library Bill of Rights:

- Books and other reading matter selected for purchase books and other reading matter **selected for purchase from public funds should be chosen for value and interest to people of the community, and in no case should the selection be influenced by the race or nationality or the political or religious views of the writers** (ALA, 1974, 4).



Conclusion:

Nikkei meeting their own needs

Since the Library of Hawaii refused to serve the reading hunger of Japanese immigrants, the community persevered and solved their own problems by creating an active market for Japanese books and magazines.

We can see this either as an act of resistance, consumption, or adoption, depending on what they read.



Photo (COURTESY OF KUAKINI HEALTH SYSTEM) From "How Kuakini became an 'American general hospital'" Honolulu Star-Bulletin
<http://archives.starbulletin.com/2001/12/07/news/story4.html>

References

Our full paper will appear as:

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INFORMATION, DIVERSITY, & INCLUSION

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- *Our students and colleagues who shaped our understanding about what it means to live here*



Suggestions/ Questions

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